

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CPR-01 SCA-01 TRSE-00 EB-07

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /026 W
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R 071345Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7969

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, AFSP, UY
SUBJECT: GOU SUSPENDS "PORT CHARGES" ON DIPLOMATIC SHIPMENTS

REF: STATE 272513, MVD 3475

1. ON JANUARY 4, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OF FONMINISTRY CALLED PAPAL NUNCIO (DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS) TO INFORM HIM THAT THE PROBLEM OF THE TWO PERCENT PORT CHARGE ON DIPLOMATIC SHIPMENTS HAD BEEN RESOLVED. PAPAL NUNCIO IN TURN INFORMED ALL CHIEFS OF MISSION AND CHARGES BY TELEPHONE OF THE INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM CHIEF OF PROTOCOL.
2. THE AMBASSADOR HAD DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT WITH HIGH OFFICIALS OF THE FONMINISTRY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, THE LATEST BEING ON JANUARY 2 WHEN HE LEFT WITH THE FONMINISTER A FIRST-PERSON NOTE AS AUTHORIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE. AT THAT TIME, THE FONMINISTER INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR THAT HE AND THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT HAD SENT A JOINT STATEMENT TO THE PORT AUTHORITY INDICATING DISAGREEMENT WITH THE CHARGE AND SUGGESTING ITS RECONSIDERATION. THE FONMINISTER INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE PORT AUTHORITY HAD AGREED IN ADVANCE TO RESPOND WITH A SOLUTION THAT WOULD STATE THAT IN VIEW OF THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE TWO MINISTRIES THE CHARGE WOULD BE "SUSPENDED" AND REFERRED TO A COMMISSION FOR STUDY. THE FONMINISTER ADDED THAT THIS WOULD BE A DIGNIFIED WAY OF PUTTING THE MATTER TO REST.

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3. EMBOFF CALLED PROTOCOL MORNING JANUARY 7 TO DETERMINE EXACT

LANGUAGE USED BY PORT AUTHORITY IN ITS RESPONSE. PROTOCOL INFORMED US THAT PHRASE USED IS "DECIDES NOT TO APPLY" (DEJAR SIN EFECTO). WE ARE HAPPY THAT THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN RESOLVED IN AN APPARENTLY AMICABLE MANNER, AND WILL MOVE AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE TO CLEAR OUR SHIPMENTS FROM THE PORT. FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION, THE EMBASSY DID NOT REMOVE A SINGLE SHIPMENT FROM THE PORT AND NO PAYMENT OF THIS CHARGE WAS THEREFORE MADE UNDER PROTEST.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE INFORM AMBASSADOR SIRACUSA VIA ARA/APU OF THIS DEVELOPMENT.

5. GDS.
HAAHR

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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